

A DELL COMIC •
DELL
• A DELL COMIC •

10¢

NO. 230

ZANE GREY'S

SUNSET PASS

PICTURIZED
EDITION





The Camp Cook's Song



Come all you young waddies, I'll sing you a song;
Stand back from the wagon—stay where you belong!
I've heard you observin' I'm fussy an' slow
While you're punchin' cattle an' I'm punchin' dough.

Now I reckon your stomach would grow to your back
If it wa'n't for the cook that keeps fillin' the slack;
With the beans in the box an' the pork in the tub,
I'm a-wonderin' now, who would fill you with grub?

You think you're right handy with gun an' with rope,
But I've noticed you're bashful when usin' the soap.
When you're rollin' your Bull for your brown cigarette
I been rollin' the dough for the biskits you et.

When you're cuttin' stock, then I'm cuttin' steak;
When you're wranglin' hosses, I'm wranglin' a cake;
When you're hazin' the dogies an' battin' your eyes,
I'm hazin' dried apples that aim to be pies.

(Continued on inside back cover)



SUNSET PASS

by Lane Grey





WELL, OLD CASS IS OFF MY TRAIL, WONDER WHO KILLED HIM? THINK I'LL DROP IN ON MY GOOD FRIEND, SOL WINTERS THERE'S SOME THINGS I'D BETTER BE FINDIN' OUT.



GUESS SOL HASN'T BEEN SHARIN' IN THE PROSPERITY. HIS OLD PLACE WAS A HEAP FINER THAN THIS ONE.



HOWDY, SOL, OLD-TIMER, DON'T YOU KNOW ME?



TRUE ROCK, WHY YOU OLD, RIDIN', SHOOTIN', SON OF A GUN!

SOL, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU. HOW'S THAT WONDERFUL BOY OF YOURS?



RECKON YOU'RE THE NEAREST I GOT TO A SON NOW, TRUEMAN. NICK WAS SHOT OFF HIS HOSS DOWN NEAR SUNSET PASS.



AW NO, SOL, NOT THAT FINE, SWEET, CRIPPLED LAD! IT MUST HAVE BEEN AN ACCIDENT.

THERE'S BAD BLOOD COME TO THESE PARTS, TRUEMAN, AND I AIN'T CONVINCED IT WAS.



THAT NEWS OF NICK'S HIT
ME HARD. I'VE GOT TO
FIND OUT WHO DID IT!



DON'T GO STIRRIN' UP TROUBLE,
SON. WILL YOU MIND THE STORE
FOR ME WHILE I COLLECT A
PACKAGE FROM THE STATION?



OH, I WAS LOOKING FOR
MR. WINTERS?.

HE STEPPED OUT FOR A
SECOND. I'LL BE GLAD TO
HELP YOU, MISS.



I'LL HAVE FIVE OF
SUGAR, FIVE OF RICE,
FIVE OF .

FIVE
WHAT?



FIVE POUNDS, OF
COURSE. DID YOU THINK
I MEANT BARRELS?
YOU AREN'T A REAL
CLERK, YOU HAVEN'T
WEIGHED A THING!



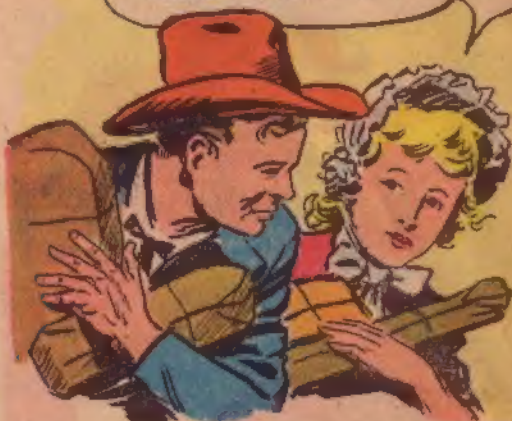
I REALLY THINK I CAN FIND
THINGS BETTER MYSELF. JUST
WRAP MY PURCHASES AND
CHARGE THEM TO MISS THIRY
PRESTON OF SUNSET
PASS

YOU'RE FAR TOO
CLUMSY FOR A CLERK.
WHO ARE YOU?

I RECKON YOU'RE RIGHT,
MISS PRESTON. I'M SORRY
ABOUT THE RICE SPILLIN',
BUT THAT'S SOMETIMES A
SIGN OF A HAPPY EVENT.
I'M TRUEMAN ROCK.



TRUEMAN ROCK? AREN'T YOU THE ONE
WHO SAVED SOL'S SON ONCE? YES, AND
THE ONE WHO BROKE MANY A GIRL'S
HEART AND LEFT TOWN UNDER A
SHERIFF'S WARRANT?



SOL'S SURE BEEN TALKIN'. GLAD
TO MEET YOU, MISS PRESTON.

THANK YOU, MR. ROCK,
BUT I CAN MANAGE
THE REST OF THE WAY
TO THE BUCKBOARD.

WITH THIS LOAD?
NO, MISS THIRY,
I'LL NOT ALLOW
IT..



PLEASE LEAVE ME, NOW,
MY BROTHER ASH DOESN'T
CARE FOR STRANGERS,
ESPECIALLY IF THEY'RE
WITH ME.

POOH? HE CAN'T
OBJECT TO A MERE
CLERK CARRYING
BUNDLES.



ASH, I CAN SEE YOU'RE
IN A FIGHTING MOOD.
PLEASE DON'T LET
YOUR ILL TEMPER
MAKE YOU FORGET
YOUR MANNERS
AGAIN.

WHAT'S THIS HYAR
FELLER DOIN' WITH
YOU? WHO IS HE?

I'LL
INTRODUCE
MYSELF. I'M
TRUE ROCK,
LATE OF
TEXAS

I DON'T GIVE A HOOT WHAT YOUR
NAME IS. WHY DON'T YOU JUST
GIT GOING BACK TO TEXAS, BIG
HAT, BEFORE I HAVE TO HELP YOU
ON YOUR WAY.



OH, ASH, YOU ARE IMPOSSIBLE.
YOU HAVE INSULTED MR. ROCK
AFTER HE WAS KIND ENOUGH
TO HELP ME WITH MY BUNDLES

RANGE, WHAT DO YOU THINK
ABOUT HELPIN' THIS MR.
ROCK-HAID GET STARTED?

TAKE IT EASY, ASH.
YOU DON'T KNOW THIS
FELLER!



TRUE? LOOK OUT!



COME OFF IT, ASH PRESTON.
THIS STUFF IS FOOL'S
PLAY. WHEN I DRAW A
GUN, A MAN'S GIVIN' ME
GOOD REASON. I DON'T
KILL A MAN FOR BAD
MANNERS



WHAT SHALL I DO? HE IS LIKE A BEAST. SOMETIMES, I THINK HE IS REALLY MAD. I CAN'T STAND IT. . . IT'S NOT FAIR. ASH HATES EVERYTHING THAT MAKES ME HAPPY. OH RANGE, HE EVEN DROWNED MY KITTEN, I I KNOW HE DID!



IT'S NOT GOOD-BYE FOR LONG, MISS PRESTON. . . THAT ASH, HE'S BAD MEDICINE AND HE'S HER BROTHER. SURE AS FATE WE'RE GOING TO CLASH!



TRUE, DON'T YOU KNOW ME? I'M AMY.

NOT AMY. IT'S MRS. JOHN DABB, NOW. SOL WINTERS TELLS ME YOU MARRIED MY OLD BOSS. . . CONGRATULATIONS.



TRUE, YOU'RE NOT GLAD TO SEE ME.



I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, MRS. DABB, BUT YOUR HUSBAND MIGHT NOT LIKE YOUR BEIN' WITH ME.

WHO CARES? IT'S NOT JOHN THAT'S WORRYING YOU, IT'S THAT THIRY PRESTON!



I SAW YOU WITH THIRY. UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS. LITTLE GOOD IT WILL DO YOU. SHE'LL HAVE NO ROMANCIN' COWBOYS WHILE THAT ASH IS LIVIN'.

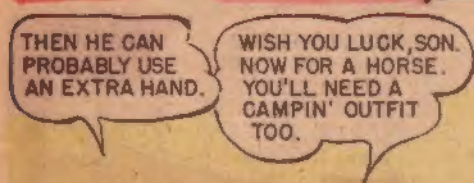




SOL, HERE IS EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS. TWO THOUSAND IS FOR STOCK IN YOUR BUSINESS, THE REST YOU PUT IN YOUR BANK AND KEEP FOR ME. LET'S PICK OUT A SPANKIN' OUTFIT, NOW. I'M GOIN' TO GET ME A JOB WITH PRESTON.

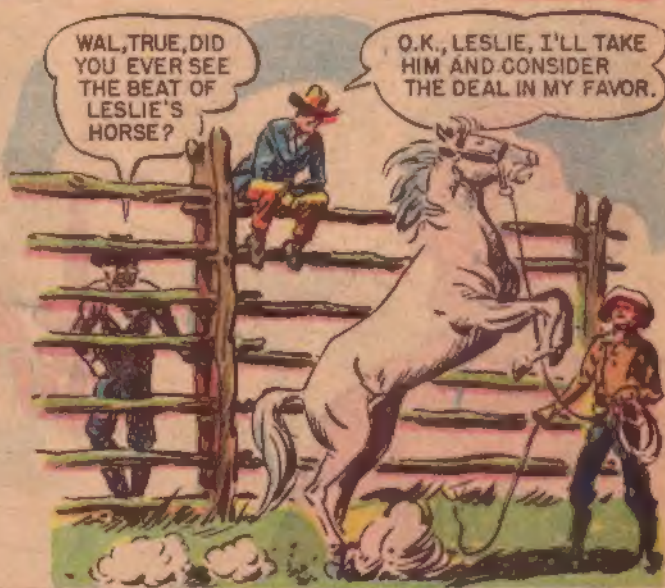


SOMETHIN' FUNNY ABOUT HIS OUTFIT, TRUE. BUT HE'S SURE SHIPPIN' A LOT OF BEEF AND MAKIN' DOUGH.



THEN HE CAN PROBABLY USE AN EXTRA HAND.

WISH YOU LUCK, SON. NOW FOR A HORSE. YOU'LL NEED A CAMPIN' OUTFIT TOO.



WAL, TRUE, DID YOU EVER SEE THE BEAT OF LESLIE'S HORSE?

O.K., LESLIE, I'LL TAKE HIM AND CONSIDER THE DEAL IN MY FAVOR.



THIRY LOVED THAT HORSE, ALWAYS USED TO VISIT HIM AT LESLIE'S CORRAL. USED TO CALL HIM EGYPT.

RECKON HIS NAME IS EGYPT, FROM NOW ON.





I'M GOIN' TO ASK
PRESTON FOR
A JOB

THOUGHT MEBBE YOU
WERE PUNCHERS DON'T
LAST LONG THERE, BUT
GOOD LUCK TO YOU



THIS PRESTON OUTFIT
IS SURE A MYSTERY ASH
HAS GOT EVERYONE ON
THE RANGE SCARED AS
JACK RABBITS



CAN'T SAY AS I LIKE MY
WELCOM.N' COMMITTEE

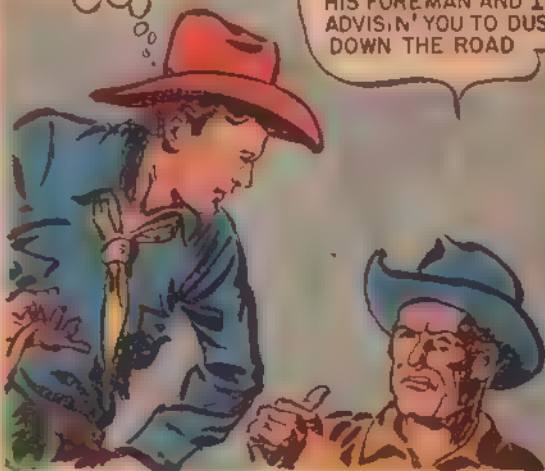


HOWDY STRANGER,
YOU GOT BUSINESS
HYAR?

I'M TRUEMAN ROCK,
AND I'M HERE TO SEE
GAGE PRESTON.

GOOD? HE DOESN'T
REMEMBER ME.

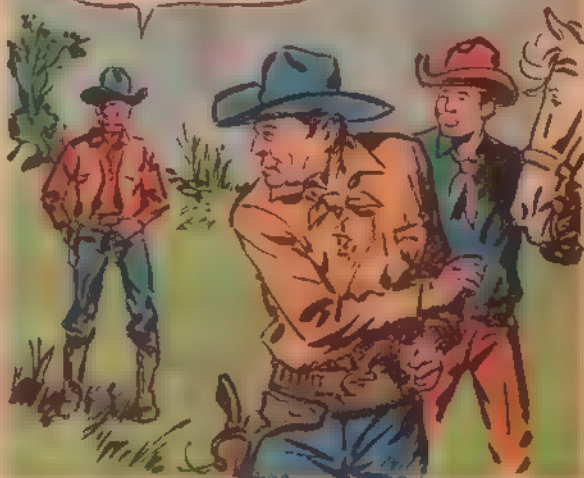
IF YOU'RE SURE IT'S
MY FATHER YOU WANT,
HE'S NOT HOME I'M
ADVISIN' YOU TO DUST
DOWN THE ROAD



PLAIN AS PRINT, ASH PRESTON, BUT
I'M STICKIN' AROUND LONG ENOUGH
TO FIND OUT IF THE REST OF THE
PRESTONS ARE AS RUDE AS YOU



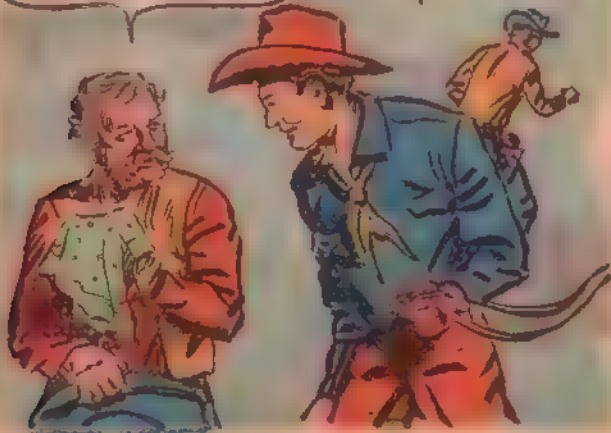
HEY, ASH, WHO ARE YOU
PALAVERIN' WITH?



STRANGER, I RECKON ASH
WASN'T WELCOMIN' YOU
WITH OPEN ARMS WERE
YOU LOOKIN' FOR ME?

WELL, YES, MR.
PRESTON I--I--

YOU NEEDN'T LIE ABOUT IT IF
YOUR NAME'S ROCK, AND I'M
GUESSIN' IT IS, YOU ALREADY
HELPED THIRY OUT AND GOT
ASH RILED I RECKON IT'S
THIRY YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR



YOU'RE PART RIGHT, MR. PRESTON, BUT I'M ALSO ASKIN' YOU FOR A JOB.

I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU, TRUEMAN ROCK YOU FIGURED IN SOME FANCY GUNPLAY, BACK A WHILE, RUNNIN' DOWN A RUSTLIN' OUTFIT.

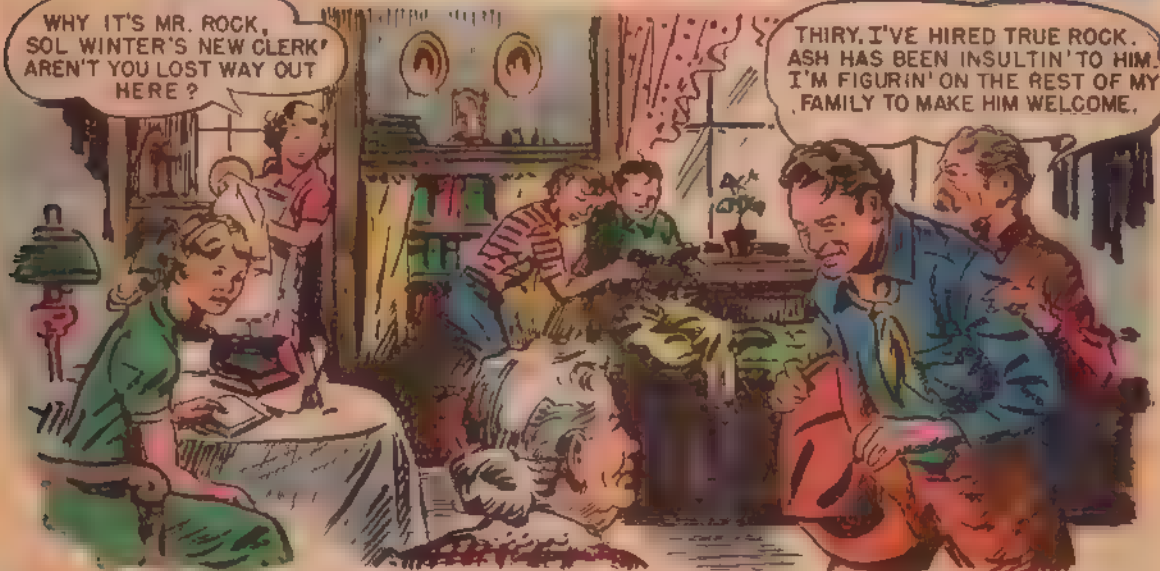
I LIKED WHAT I HEERED, SON IF YOU CAN HANDLE THE BOYS AND STICK IT OUT IN THE FACE OF ASH, YOU'RE HIRED.

I'LL DO MY BEST, BUT I WON'T BE WALKED ON.



WHY IT'S MR. ROCK, SOL WINTER'S NEW CLERK! AREN'T YOU LOST WAY OUT HERE?

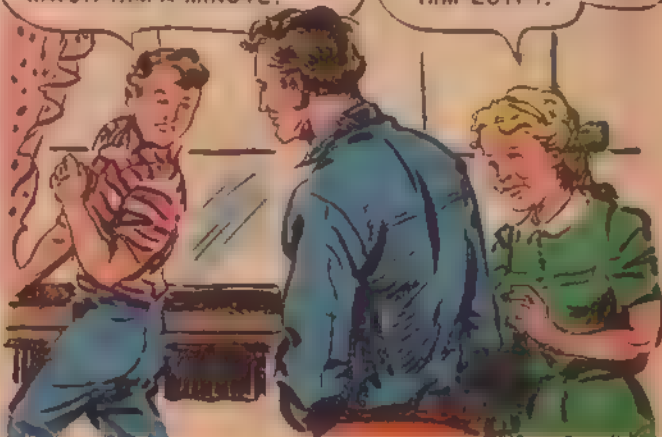
THIRY, I'VE HIRED TRUE ROCK. ASH HAS BEEN INSULTIN' TO HIM. I'M FIGURIN' ON THE REST OF MY FAMILY TO MAKE HIM WELCOME.



OH, DAD, I DIDN'T KNOW... I-I DIDN'T MEAN... MR. ROCK, WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US.

GOSH, YOUR HOSS IS PRETTY, MR. ROCK? I PUT HIM OUT IN THE CORRAL SO'S I COULD WATCH HIM A MINUTE.

THAT WAS LESLIE'S HORSE. THIRY LOVES HIM. SHE USED TO CALL HIM EGYPT.



MIGHTY STRANGE, MISS ALICE,
BUT THAT'S JUST WHAT I
NAMED HIM



THERE'S ASH HE'S SURE MAD
ABOUT SOMETHIN' HE'S
LOOKIN' AT YOUR HOSS,
MR ROCK



WAL, ROCK, RANGE WILL SHOW YOU AROUND
TONIGHT AND IN THE MORNING I'LL PUT
YOU TO WORK PACKIN' SOME NEW HIDES



RECKON I'LL BUNK OUT THERE
ON THE PORCH. I LIKE BEIN'
UNDER THE STARS



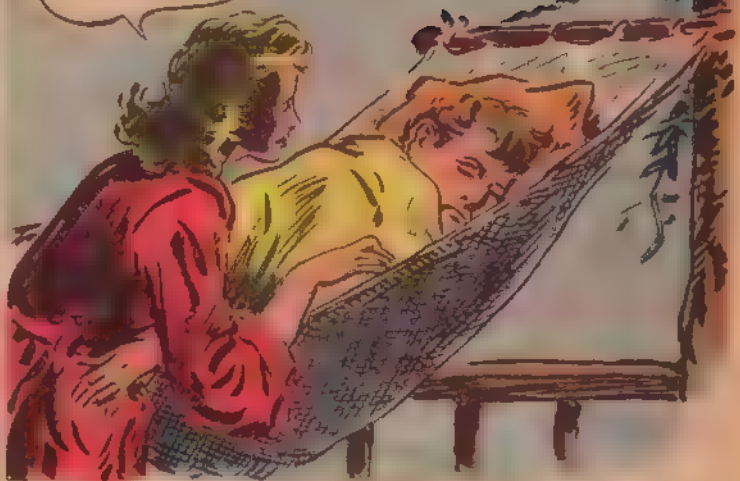
I'LL JUST HAVE TO
WARN HIM BEFORE
IT'S TOO LATE



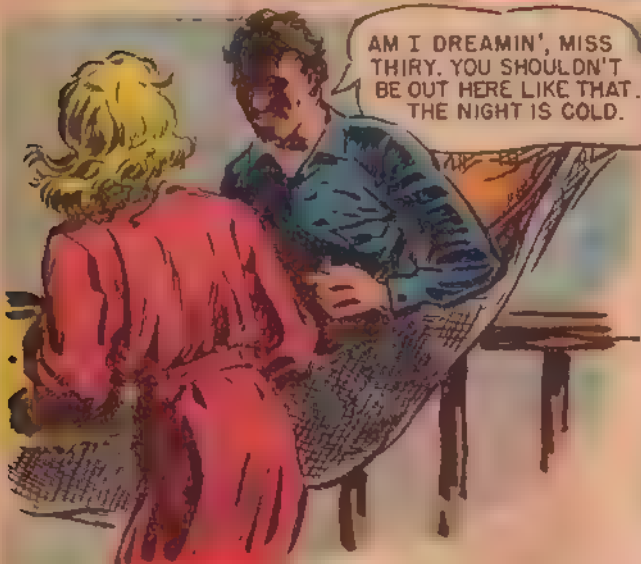
HE'LL HAVE TO GO AWAY BEFORE HE FINDS OUT ASH WILL KILL HIM EVEN IF HE DOESN'T DISCOVER ANYTHING.



MR. ROCK, --
MR. ROCK?



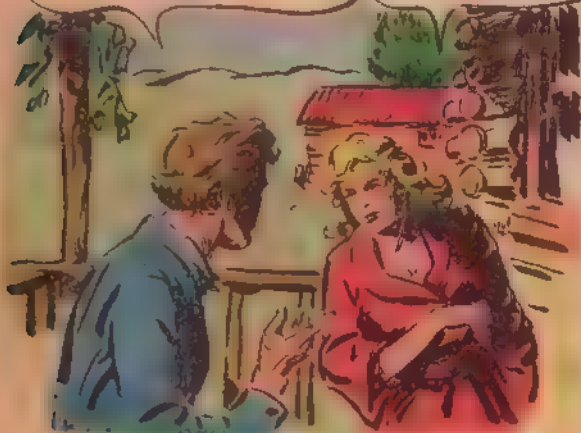
AM I DREAMIN', MISS THIRY. YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE LIKE THAT. THE NIGHT IS COLD.



REALLY, MR ROCK, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HONEST ABOUT COMING HERE. YOU REALLY CAME TO SEE ME, DIDN'T YOU?



YOU'RE RIGHT, MISS THIRY I NEVER MET A GIRL LIKE YOU BEFORE. I HAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN WHERE'S THE HARM?



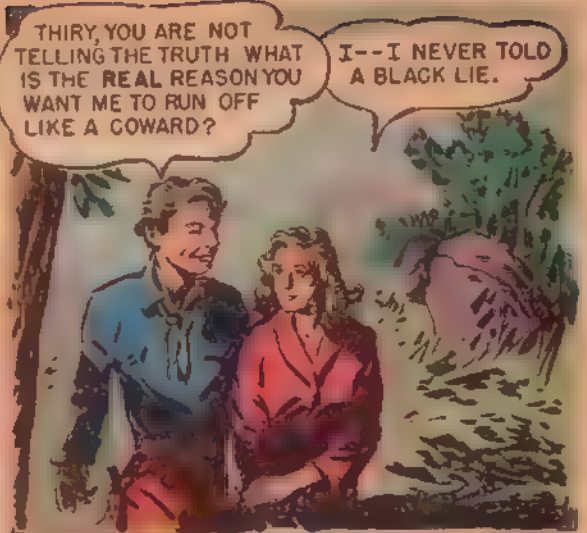
MY BROTHER ASH WILL MAKE HARM COME OF IT! YOU MUST NOT STAY.

HAVE YOU BEEN AS CONCERNED OVER ALL THE LOVESICK COWBOYS, MISS THIRY, OR DID YOU APPROVE OF ASH'S BULLYIN' TACTICS?



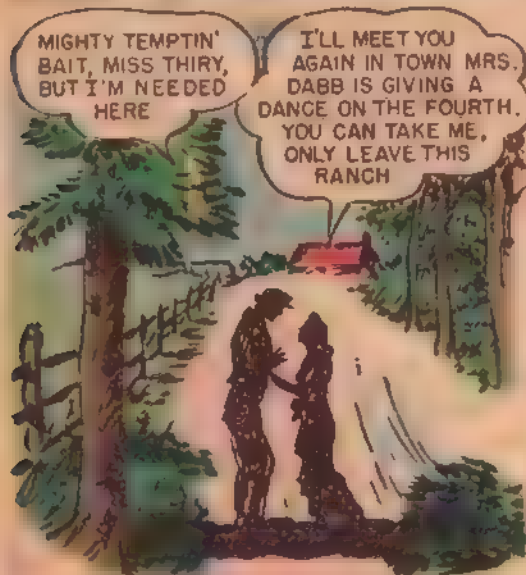


YOU ARE NASTY, HOW COULD I APPROVE? HE HAS NEAR KILLED MEN AND I LIVE IN TERROR. PLEASE, YOU MUST GO!



THIRY, YOU ARE NOT TELLING THE TRUTH WHAT IS THE REAL REASON YOU WANT ME TO RUN OFF LIKE A COWARD?

I--I NEVER TOLD A BLACK LIE.



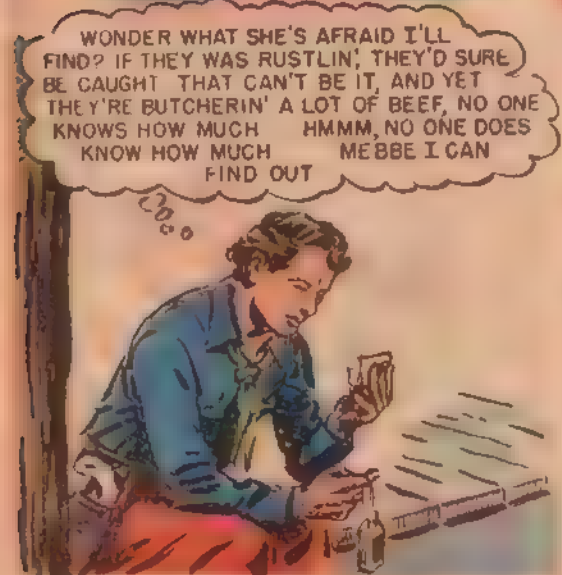
MIGHTY TEMPTIN' BAIT, MISS THIRY, BUT I'M NEEDED HERE

I'LL MEET YOU AGAIN IN TOWN MRS. DABB IS GIVING A DANCE ON THE FOURTH. YOU CAN TAKE ME, ONLY LEAVE THIS RANCH



I'M SORRY YOU WON'T LISTEN TO ME, MR ROCK. TERRIBLY SORRY.

GOOD NIGHT...



WONDER WHAT SHE'S AFRAID I'LL FIND? IF THEY WAS RUSTLIN', THEY'D SURE BE CAUGHT THAT CAN'T BE IT, AND YET THEY'RE BUTCHERIN' A LOT OF BEEF, NO ONE KNOWS HOW MUCH HMMM, NO ONE DOES KNOW HOW MUCH MEBBE I CAN FIND OUT



GOSH, ASH SHORE HAS HIS NERVE, TAKIN' MR. ROCK'S HOSS'

I WONDER WHAT HE'LL DO WHEN HE FINDS OUT?

HARRY, I GUESS
WE'D BETTER NOT
MENTION IT.

RECKON YOU'RE
RIGHT. THERE'D
BE GUNS FLASHIN'
BEFORE LUNCH.

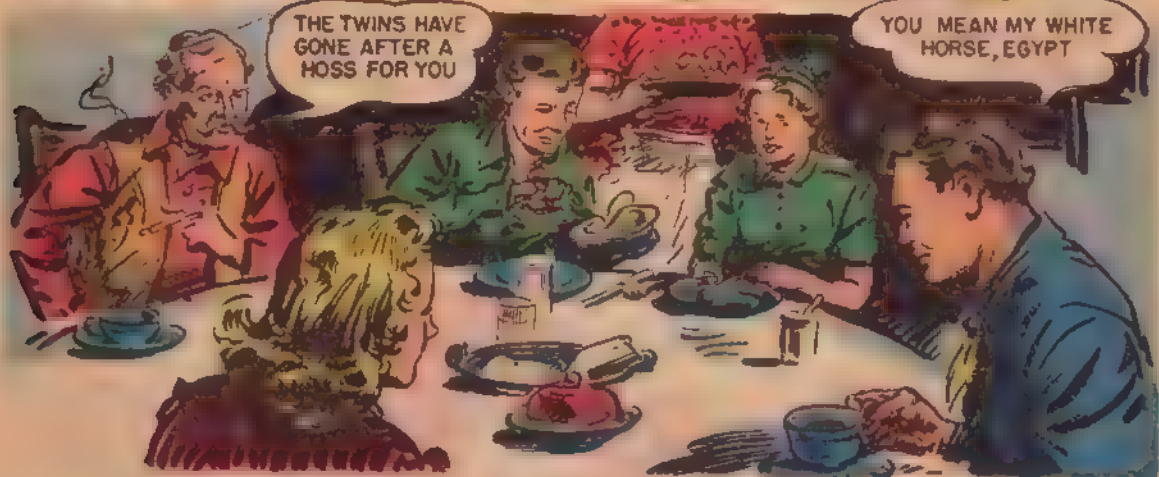
MORNIN', BOSS. DID YOU
SLEEP WELL? WE'VE BEEN
RINGIN' THAT BREAKFAST
BELL AS LOUD AS IT'D
RING

DOGGONE, LATE
MY FIRST DAY
HOLD ON, RANGE,
I'LL BE RIGHT
WITH YOU



THE TWINS HAVE
GONE AFTER A
HOSS FOR YOU

YOU MEAN MY WHITE
HORSE, EGYPT



NO, ROCK, THEY'VE GONE
AFTER ONE OF OURS ASH
BORROWED YOUR HOSS EARLY
THIS MORNIN'!

I'LL GO FETCH MY
HORSE, PRESTON

SON, YOU CAN'T
MEAN YOU'RE
GOIN' AFTER
ASH



NO, I'M NOT LOOKIN' FOR GUNPLAY BEFORE I HAVE TO. I JUST WANT TO BE SURE I GET THE BEST HORSE IN THE STABLE.

THAT MEANS YOU'RE FIXIN' TO RIDE ASH'S HOSS.

GEE, BOSS, YOU SURE HAVE NERVE. YOU EVEN TOOK HIS SADDLE.

JUST A LITTLE JOKE, BOYS. ASH AND I LOVE KIDDIN' ONE ANOTHER.



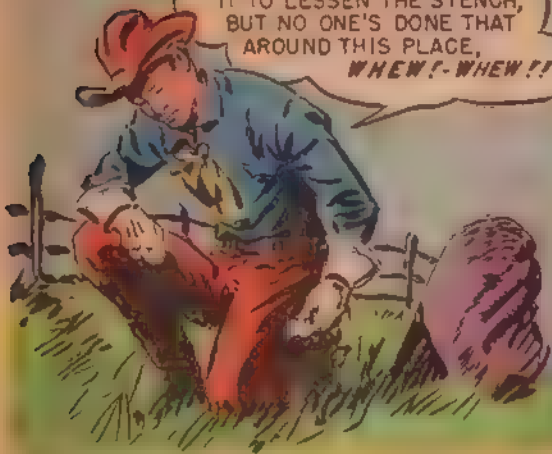
SO THIS IS WHAT GAGE WANTED SLAGLE'S OLD RANCH FOR. WHAT A MESS. EVEN THE AIR IS TAINTED WITH THE SMELL OF ROTTING FLESH FROM SLAUGHTERED CATTLE.



HARRY, THAT MAN IS SHORE A HAWG FOR WORK.



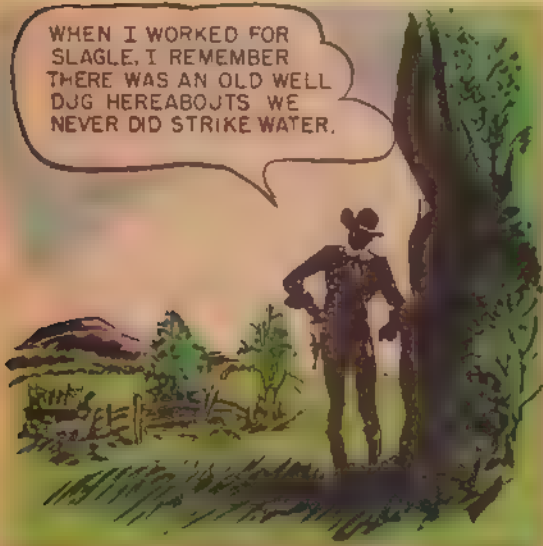
NOW, WHAT COULD THEY BE
USIN' QUICKLIME FOR?
SLAUGHTER HOUSES USE
IT TO LESSEN THE STENCH,
BUT NO ONE'S DONE THAT
AROUND THIS PLACE,
WHEN? - WHEN?!



THAT DARNED PIECE OF QUICKLIME'S
GOT ME JUMPY. IT'S BEEN USED FOR
SOMETHIN' AND I BET THERE'S MORE
AROUND



WHEN I WORKED FOR
SLAGLE, I REMEMBER
THERE WAS AN OLD WELL
DUG HEREABOUTS WE
NEVER DID STRIKE WATER.



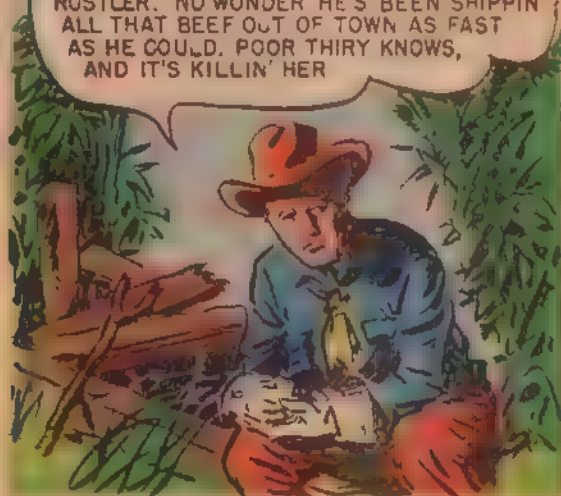
WONDER WHAT THAT
SMELL IS? I'LL BE
DOGGONED IF IT ISN'T
QUICKLIME. I'LL JUST
TOSS A ROCK DOWN
THERE



THAT ROCK DIDN'T HIT STONE,
IT HIT SOMETHIN' SOFT. IF PRESTON'S
SLAUGHTERIN' STOLEN BEEF, HE WOULDN'T
WANT BRANDED HIDES AROUND. THIS'D
SURE BE A GOOD PLACE TO DROP
THEM



SURE, THAT'S IT? GAGE PRESTON'S A
RUSTLER. NO WONDER HE'S BEEN SHIPPIN'
ALL THAT BEEF OUT OF TOWN AS FAST
AS HE COULD. POOR THIRY KNOWS,
AND IT'S KILLIN' HER



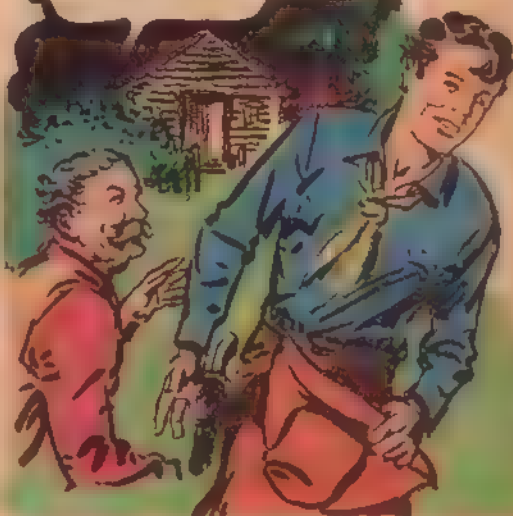
I BET THAT ASH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS WHOLE DEAL. HE'S GOT GAGE PRESTON IN TOO DEEP TO CLIMB OUT. GUESS I'LL KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT AND DO SOME MORE LOOKIN'



MR ROCK, WILL YOU WALK ME TO MY CABIN?



BETTER JUMP TO IT, ROCK. MANY A COWBOY'D GIVE HIS RIGHT ARM TO HEAR THOSE WORDS.



MR ROCK, ASH ISN'T BACK WHEN HE LEFT. HE SWORE HE'D BREAK EGYPT'S LEG. WHAT WILL YOU DO?

IF MY HORSE IS CRIPPLED, I'LL END HIS MISERY. I WON'T DRAW A GUN FOR ANYTHING ELSE.



THANK HEAVEN FOR THAT, TRUE. ONLY THE TIME WILL COME, ASH WILL MAKE IT COME, WHEN YOU'LL HAVE TO DRAW YOUR GUN. AND THEN THERE WILL BE BLOOD-SHED. YOU MUST GO. I BEG YOU TO.



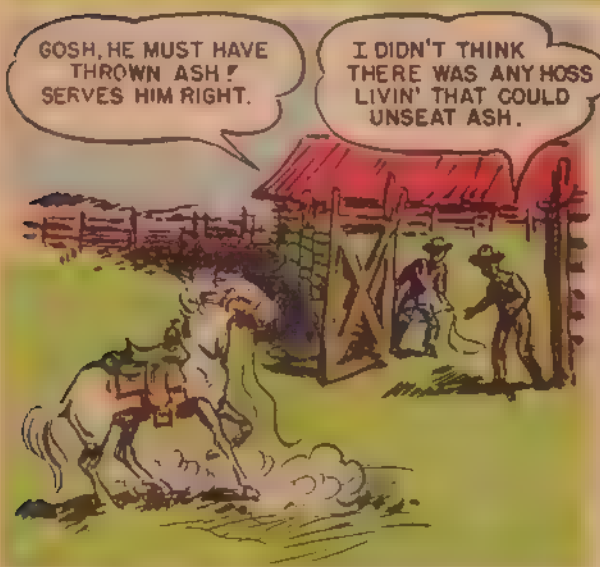
MY POOR, MISGUIDED GIRL YOU'D
SELL YOUR VERY SOUL FOR THAT WORTH-
LESS ASH NO, THIRY, I LOVE YOU AND
I'M GOING TO STAY WHERE I
CAN HELP YOU.

TRUST ME, THIRY, I'LL KEEP OUT
OF ASH'S WAY AND TO AVOID TROUBLE
WITH HIM, I'LL STAY AWAY FROM
YOU.

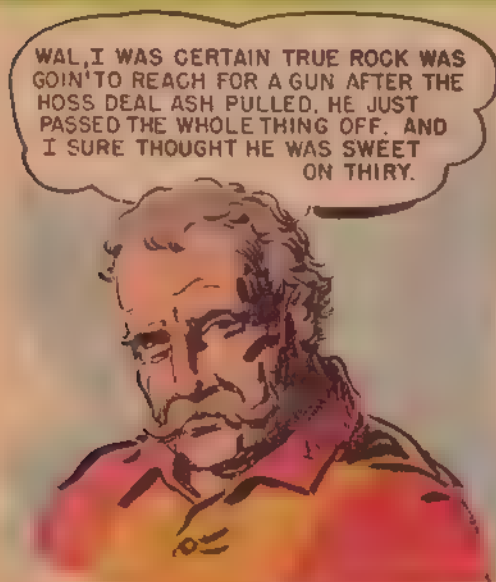
SO YOU GOT A FANCY NAME
EH? ONE SHE GAVE YOU,
TOO? BEFORE I CALL
EGYPT, I'LL BREAK
YOUR LEG!

OH NO,
YOU DON'T.

HATE ME 'MOST
AS MUCH AS I
HATE YOU, DON'T
YOU?



SEVERAL DAYS LATER.



PA SAID TO CART THESE HIDES TO THE OLD CAVE AND PACK THEM TIGHT WITH QUICKLIME. HE'S CRAZY THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM LEFT IN THE OLD WELL.

NO ONE'LL EVER FIND THIS PLACE, AND I'LL BE DARNED IF I'LL DRAG THIS SMELLIN' STUFF AN EXTRA THREE MILES. THE OLD MAN'S GETTIN' TOO JUMPY.



OH, YOU DO LOOK BEAUTIFUL, THIRY WASN'T IT CLEVER OF AMY TO DECIDE ON A MASQUERADE?

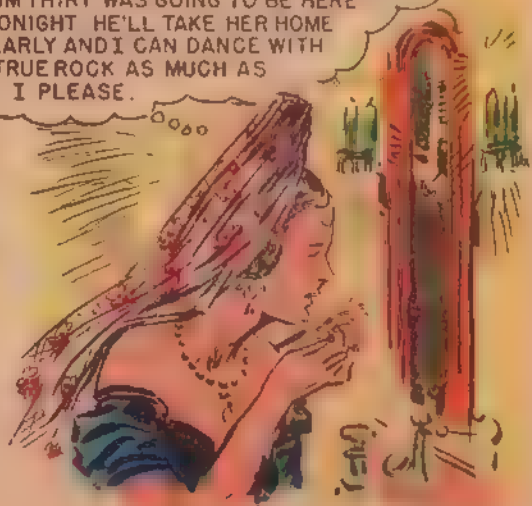
I DON'T THINK ASH WOULD RECOGNIZE ME, NOW. IF ONLY HE WILL STAY AWAY



NO, AMY, THAT PRANCIN' AROUND ON A DANCE FLOOR IN A SILLY COSTUME IS NOT FOR ME. ENJOY YOURSELF BUT TAKE IT EASY

GOOD, HE'LL GO TO BED EARLY. I'LL SEE THAT TRUEMAN LOOKS AFTER HIS HOSTESS

ASH SURE LOOKED WILD WHEN I TOLD HIM THIRY WAS GOING TO BE HERE TONIGHT. HE'LL TAKE HER HOME EARLY AND I CAN DANCE WITH TRUE ROCK AS MUCH AS I PLEASE.



CAME TO YOUR PARTY A LITTLE EARLY, SWEETHEART YOU MUST HAVE PLUMB FERGOT TO INVITE OLE CLINK.



DON'T BE A FOOL, CLINK, SOMEONE MIGHT HEAR YOU?

COME HEAR, SWEETHEART, YOU CAN'T COME OFF DROPPIN' ME.



HOWDY, MR. RED SCARF, LEAVE THE LADY ALONE SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO WANT YOU AROUND



THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BIZNESS, HARD HAT. OR ARE YOU JUST HORNIN' IN TO GET AN INSIDE TRACK YOURSELF.

YOU'RE DABB'S FOREMAN, CLINK PEEPLES, AREN'T YOU? WALI, I'M TRJEMAN ROCK, AN OLD FRIEND OF JOHN DABB'S.



SORRY, ROCK. I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU AND THEN I HAVE TO RUN INTO YOU LIKE THIS. SHE ASKED FOR IT' THOUGH, DARNED IF SHE DIDN'T.



WHAT DID YOU WANT TO SEE ME FOR? TALK FAST, PARTY GUESTS WILL SOON BE ARRIVIN'.

ROCK, I LIKE YOUR RECORD YOU'RE A TRUE COWBOY I WANTED TO WARN YOU TO GIT PRESTON'S UNDER A SHADOW

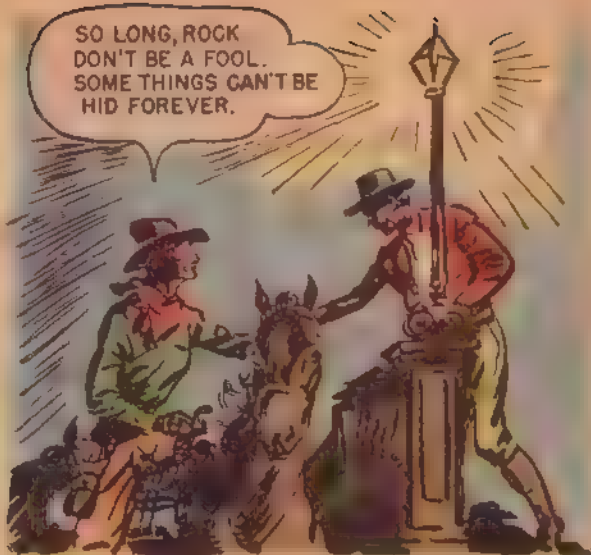


I'VE BEEN HOPIN'
THAT TALK WOULD
BLOW OVER

TAKE MY HUNCH,
IT'S GOIN' TO GIT
WORSE DON'T GIT
CAUGHT IN THE PRESTON
STORM MARRY THE
GIRL AND LEAVE THAT
PLACE



SO LONG, ROCK
DON'T BE A FOOL.
SOME THINGS CAN'T BE
HID FOREVER.



OLD DABB NEVER LIKED ME MUCH,
MAYBE BECAUSE AMY USED
TO TAG ME AROUND. I'VE
GOT TO FIND OUT HOW
MUCH HE KNOWS



PARDON MY BREAKIN' IN
ON YOU LIKE THIS, JOHN,
BUT I HAD TO SEE YOU.

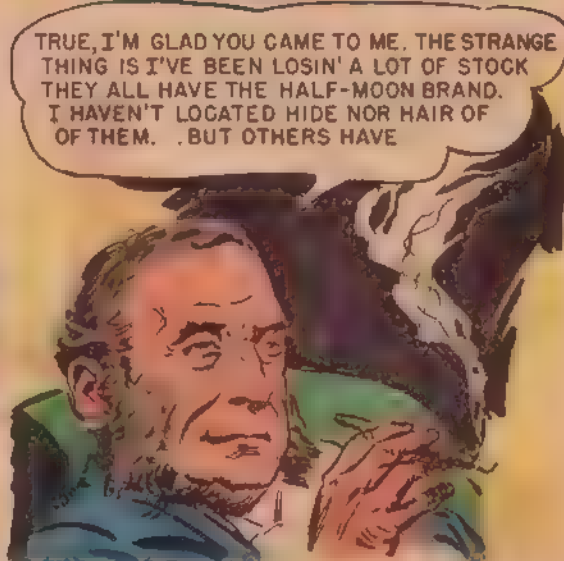
IT'S ALL RIGHT, TRUE.
I FIGURED YOU'D
BE AROUND I DON'T
HOLD OLD TIMES
AGAINST YOU



JOHN, YOU'RE HEAD OF THE
CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
I'VE CAUGHT SOME OF YOUR
MEN PUSSYFOOTIN' AROUND
SUNSET PASS. WHAT ABOUT
THAT?



TRUE, I'M GLAD YOU CAME TO ME. THE STRANGE
THING IS I'VE BEEN LOSIN' A LOT OF STOCK
THEY ALL HAVE THE HALF-MOON BRAND.
I HAVEN'T LOCATED HIDE NOR HAIR OF
OF THEM. BUT OTHERS HAVE

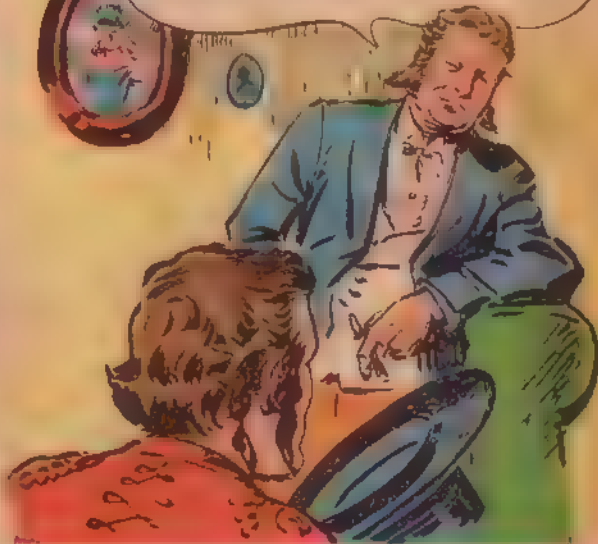


DABB, WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

DON'T YELL, COWBOY WALLS HAVE EARS
PRESTON'S OUTFIT HELPED RUIN SLAGLE
NOW SLAGLE'S GONE AND DISCOVERED
FRESH HALF-MOON HIDE NEAR PRESTON'S
SLAUGHTER SHED. HE CAME ONLY TO ME,
BUT WHEN THE OTHERS FIND OUT WHERE
THEIR CATTLE HAVE BEEN GOIN', THERE'LL
BE A WAR... AN UGLY ONE

I'VE KEPT QUIET BECAUSE I HATE TO
INVOLVE THE ENTIRE PRESTON FAMILY
I'M SURE GAGE WAS FORCED TO HELP
THAT NO-GOOD SON OF HIS, ASH. THE
OTHERS ARE INNOCENT VICTIMS

DABB, WAIT I'VE GOT SOME MONEY,
I'LL BUY SLAGLE'S SILENCE AND STOP
PRESTON'S STEALING BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE. EVEN IF I HAVE TO CALL ASH
PRESTON OUT!



I'LL DO MY BEST FOR YOU, TRUE.
I KNOW IT'S THE GIRL YOU'RE
TRYIN' TO PROTECT. BUT ONCE
THEY FIND OUT, I CAN'T ANSWER
FOR THE REST OF THE RANGERS.

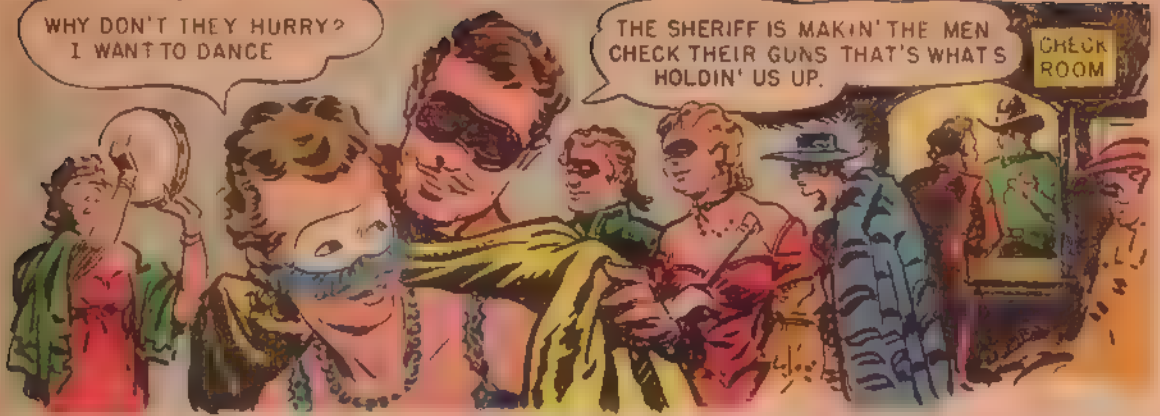
GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE
TO TALK TO GAGE



WHY DON'T THEY HURRY?
I WANT TO DANCE

THE SHERIFF IS MAKIN' THE MEN
CHECK THEIR GUNS THAT'S WHAT'S
HOLDIN' US UP.

CHECK
ROOM



BUENAS TARDES,
SEÑOR.

BUENAS TARDES,
SEÑORA DABB. YOU MAKE
A MIGHTY PRETTY SPANISH
GIRL.

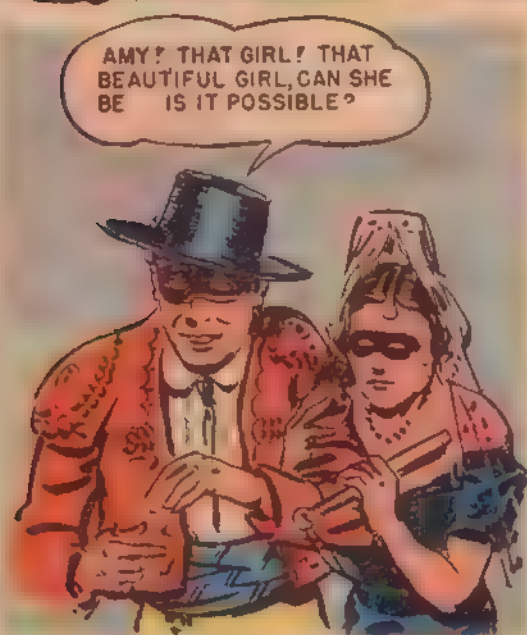
LOOK WHO IS THAT
GORGEOUS GIRL IN
THE COLONIAL GOWN?

ISN'T SHE LOVELY?
WHO CAN IT BE?



STOP LOOKING FOR THIRY YOU'RE
DANCING WITH ME ANYHOW,
YOU WON'T MISS HER SHE
COULDN'T DISGUISE HERSELF
IN A BURLAP BAG





HE SNATCHED MY MASK.
STOP HIM, HE'S GONE
CRAZY?

STOP HIM, SOMEBODY!

OH, TRUE, IT'S ASH* AND HE'S
COMING THIS WAY* HE'S
TEARING ALL THE GIRLS'
MASKS OFF. WHAT SHALL
I DO?

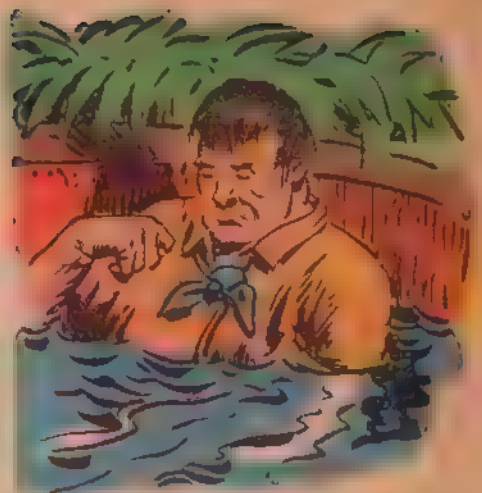
I'LL KILL YOU* OUT
OF MY WAY*

ASH, YOU'RE MAD!

DRESSED UP, ARE YOU, WEARIN'
A DISGRACEFUL COSTUME
PARADIN' BEFORE
EVERYBODY*

YOU MAD DOG*

COOL OFF NOW, AND REMEMBER, THIS ISN'T THE END OF THE FIGHT NEXT TIME THE SHERIFF WON'T HAVE OUR GUNS



ASH COOLS OFF IN THE FOUNTAIN.



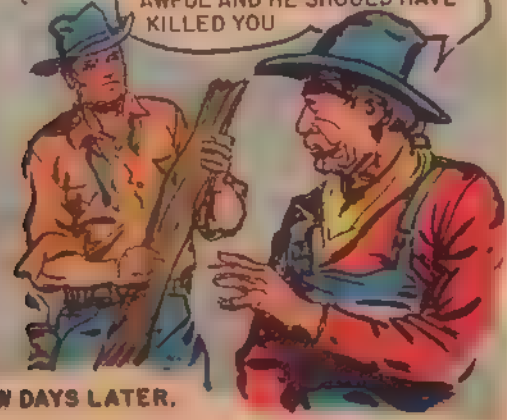
OH, THIRY, IT'S ALL MY FAULT I WANTED TO DANCE WITH TRUE I DIDN'T KNOW ASH WAS MAD IF THE SHERIFF HADN'T TAKEN HIS GUN, HE'D HAVE KILLED YOU BOTH ? WILL YOU EVER FORGIVE ME ?

WISH I'D KILLED THAT SPANIARD

DON'T TALK LIKE A FOOL, ASH THAT WASN'T A SPANISH FELLOW, THAT GUY WAS TRUE ROCK YOU INSULTED THIRY SOMETHIN' AWFUL AND HE SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU

WAL, SO THAT'S WHO IT WAS. RECKON I GOT A SHOOTIN'

YOU TEND TO BUSINESS, ASH PRESTON WHILE YOU BEEN TIED UP WITH MAKIN' THIRY MISERABLE, OTHER MEN HAVE BEEN DOIN' SOME SCOUTIN'



A FEW DAYS LATER.

LISTEN, ASH, IT'S YOUR FAULT WE'RE IN THIS MESS NOW. I TOLD YOU TO GO EASY ON BUTCHERIN' AND TOTE HIDES WITH BRANDS ON THEM DOWN TO THIS OLD CAVE. NOW SOMEONE'S SEEN THE HIDES LYIN' AROUND.



YOU GOT ME INTO THIS TO BEGIN WITH, ASH. NOW THINGS ARE GETTIN' TOO HOT I'M GETTIN' OUT BEFORE YOUR MOTHER AND THE KIDS GET HURT



WAL, I INTEND TO GO ON BUTCHERIN'...

ASH, I'M BOSS AND WE'RE QUITTIN' THIS STEALIN' WITH YOU OR WITHOUT YOU!

SAY, HARRY, YOU NOTICE THOSE MEN RIDIN' DOWN THERE?

YEAH, RECKON WE'D BETTER RIDE OVER AND SEE WHAT THEY ARE LOOKIN' FOR



ALL THE EVIDENCE IS RIGHT HERE. MY BOSS AIMS TO CALL ASH PRESTON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BIG PART OF THE DEAL.



HOWDY, CLINK, WHAT YOU DOIN' SNEAKIN' AROUND HYAR?

WE LIKE VISITORS TO ANNOUNCE THEMSELVES TO MY DAD



WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT?

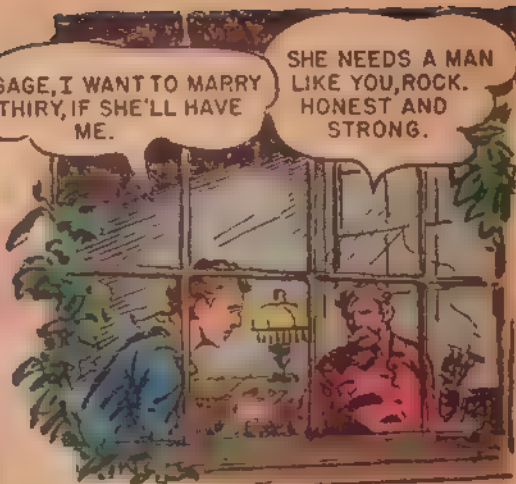
ASH? HE MUST HAVE BEEN WATCHIN' ONLY ASH WOULD SHOOT A MAN IN THE BACK. I'LL GET DAD.



A SHOT RINGS OUT FROM THE UNDERBRUSH AND CLINK IS HIT IN THE BACK.

GAGE, I WANT TO MARRY THIRY, IF SHE'LL HAVE ME.

SHE NEEDS A MAN LIKE YOU, ROCK. HONEST AND STRONG.



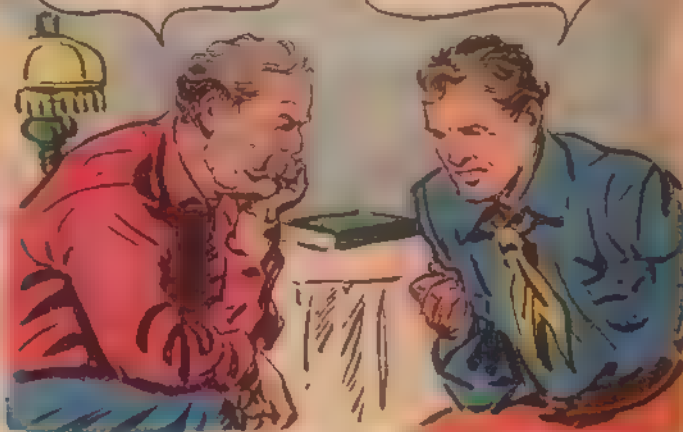
BACK AT THE MAIN HOUSE.

GAGE PRESTON, GIVE YOURSELF UP YOU'VE BEEN DISCOVERED I'VE KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME, BUT NOW THE ENTIRE RANGE KNOWS. SLAGLE FOUND STOLEN HALF-MOON HIDES.



I FEARED THIS WOULD HAPPEN. WHAT MADE THEM HOLD OFF?

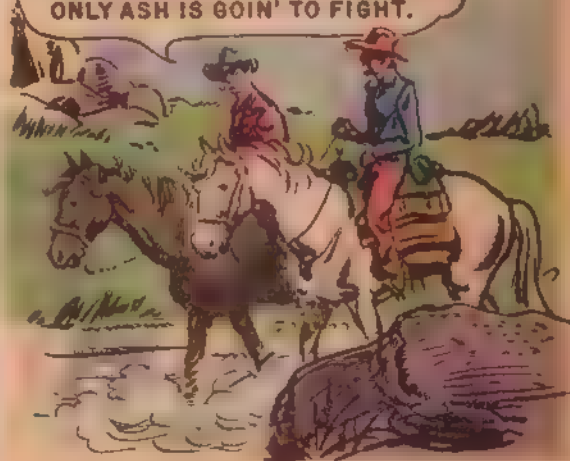
I BOUGHT SLAGLE'S SILENCE, BUT CLINK PEEPLES DID SOME SCOUTIN' OF HIS OWN.



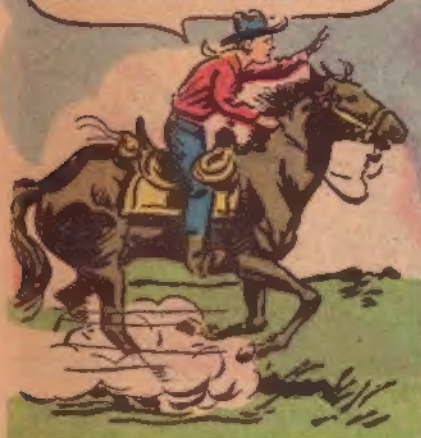
THIRY, GIRL, THIS COWBOY HAS ASKED ME FOR YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE. I'M ADVISIN' YOU TO ACCEPT HIM.



I GUESS YOUR WAY IS BEST I'LL PAY BACK EVERYTHING AND LEAVE THE COUNTRY, IF THEY'LL LET ME ONLY ASH IS GOIN' TO FIGHT.



HEY, DAD, HURRY! ASH SHOT
CLINK PEEPLES. HARRY'S
DOWN THERE WITH HIS MEN.
THEY ARE AWFUL RILED.



HI, ROCK, YOU DOGBONE
SPY?



GLAD TO MEET YOU,
BEEF RUSTLER. YOU FIGURIN'
ON GOIN' TO ANY MORE DANCES
AND INSULTIN' ANY MORE
LADIES?



HERE'S WHERE THIRY PUT
HER MASK, SEE IF YOU CAN
HIT IT.



THE--FOOL-- I'LL
GET HIM-- THIS--

TOM, HURRY, WE NEED A DOCTOR FOR
CLINK AND TRUEMAN. ASH IS FINISHED.
SOMEHOW I'M GLAD HIS TANGLED
SOUL'S FOUND REST.



THIRY, AM I
DREAMIN'? HAVE
YOU FORGIVEN ME
FOR ASH?

OH, TRUE, OF COURSE I
HAVE... IT WASN'T
YOUR DOING? ASH, IN
HIS MADNESS WOULD
HAVE KILLED YOU AND
DESTROYED US ALL.



CLINK IS GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT AND YOU'LL
BE UP IN A WEEK OR SO. THE RANCHERS HAVE
BEEN WONDERFUL TO US. THEY BOUGHT DAD
OUT AND ARE FIGURING ON YOU TO RUN THE
RANCH FOR THEM. DAD, MOTHER, AND THE
BOYS HAVE LEFT FOR COLORADO.



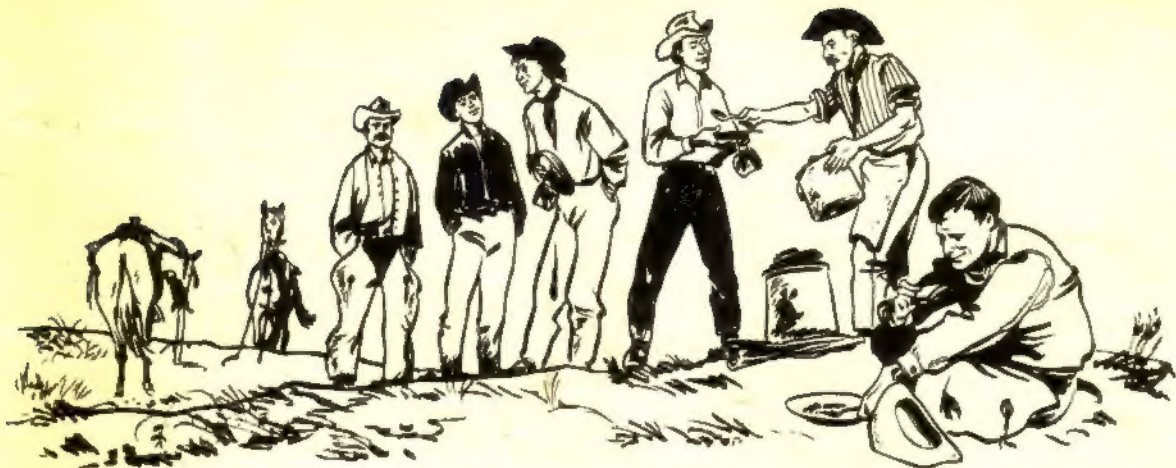
THIRY, AS
SOON AS I'M
UP WE'LL
BE MARRIED
AND GO OUT
TO SUNSET
PASS.



BLESS YOU BOTH. I KNEW YOU'D
WEATHER THIS AWFUL STORM.
THE WEST NEEDS YOU BOTH.
GO OUT TO SUNSET PASS
TOGETHER, A GRAND NEW
LIFE IS WAITIN' FOR YOU
OUT THERE.



HARRY
PARKS



(Continued from inside front cover)

You brag about shootin' out windows an' lights,
But try shootin' biskits for twelve appetites!
When you crawl from your rolls an' the ground it is froze,
Then who biles the coffee that thaws out your nose?

In the ol' days the punchers they took what they got;
It was sow-belly, beans, an' the ol' coffee pot;
But now you come howlin' for pie an' for cake,
An' then cuss at the cook for a good belly ache.

You say that I'm old, with my feet on the skids;
Well, I'm tellin' you now that you're nothin' but kids!
If you reckon your mounts are some snaky an' raw,
Just try ridin' herd on a stove that won't draw.

When you look at my apron you're readin' my brand—
Four X, which is sign for the best in the land;
On bottle or sack it sure stands for good luck,
So line up, you waddies, an' wrangle your chuck.

No use of your snortin' an' fightin' your head—
If you like it with chili, just eat what I said!
For I aim to be boss of this end of the show,
While you're punchin' cattle an' I'm punchin' dough.



